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Purdue Extension Holds Rain Garden Workshop at SWRC August 30-31, 2016

The local Purdue Extension office held a Rainscaping Education Program at the Merrillville Stormwater Resource Center August 30-31, 2016. Purdue Extension officials, in partnership with the Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District, taught master gardeners, landscape professionals and agency staff how to promote community awareness and education for bioretention and rain garden planning, design installation and maintenance.

Landscapes with rainscaping capture stormwater, which reduces polluted runoff from homes and communities. When plants and soils of a rainscaped landscape absorb water from storms, they help keep pollution from reaching streams, rivers and lakes.

The sessions included classroom instruction through online learning modules, experiential training activities, field techniques and a field trip with site visits of local rain gardens to view rainscaping projects. The final activity was the planting of a rain garden at the Merrillville Stormwater Resource Center at 7404 Broadway. Please click on **our photo gallery** to see pictures of the planting of the rain garden.